

In the Claims:

Please cancel claim 23 without prejudice or dedication.

Please amend the claims as indicated below:

1. (currently amended) A method for identifying an off-schedule software agent operating in a computer system, said method comprising:

- associating an entry time with said software agent entering a queue;
- obtaining a clock signal associated with a clock time;
- comparing said entry time to said clock time to obtain a queue time for said software agent;
- comparing said queue time to a threshold limit; and
- identifying said software agent as said off-schedule software agent if said queue time exceeds said threshold time limit.

2. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein said clock signal is obtained from a system clock.

3. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein said clock time indicates the current time.

4. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said threshold time limit is associated with a graded scale for denoting the status of said software agent.

5. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein said threshold time limit is specified by said computer system.

6. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said software agent is released from said queue if said queue time exceeds said threshold time limit.

7. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said software agent has a priority associated therewith.

8. (currently amended) The method of claim 7, wherein said priority is changed if said software agent is identified.

9. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said software agent has information associated therewith, said information allowing statistics of said software agent to be generated.

10. (currently amended) The method of claim 9, wherein said statistics of said software agent are compared to statistics associated with other software agents operating in said queue.

11. (original) The method of claim 9, wherein at least a portion of said information is displayed to a user.

12. (currently amended) A method for managing a plurality of off-schedule software agents concurrently operating in a queue on a computer system, each of said plurality of software agents having data associated therewith, said method comprising:

receiving said data;

processing said data to determine if any of said plurality have excessive queue times, those of said plurality having excessive queue times identified as late software agents; and operating on at least said late software agents.

13. (currently amended) The method of claim 12, wherein said operating further comprises: determining if said late software agents reside in the same database.

14. (currently amended) The method of claim 13, further comprising parsing said late software agents across a plurality of databases.

15. (currently amended) The method of claim 12, wherein said queue has a threshold time limit associated therewith, said threshold time limit for determining the number of concurrently running software agents allowed to operate in said queue.

16. (currently amended) The method of claim 15, wherein the number of said software agents making up said plurality is compared to said threshold time limit.

17. (original) The method of claim 16, further comprising:

providing a plurality of executive processes if said plurality exceeds said threshold time limit when said comparison is made.

18. (currently amended) A method for processing data associated with a plurality of off-schedule software agents operating in a computer system, said method comprising:

receiving said data from a queue associated with said software agents to produce received data;

defining criteria to be used with said received data;

sorting said received data according to said criteria;

generating a list containing said received data;

filtering said received data; and

providing said received data to a document.

19. (original) The method of claim 18, wherein said list is a sorted linked list.

20. (original) The method of claim 19, wherein said filtering removes unwanted agent data.

21. (original) The method of claim 20, wherein said document is made available to a user.

22. (currently amended) The method of claim 21, wherein said document comprises:

instructions for said user to improve operation of at least one of said plurality of software agents.

23. (cancelled)